

SINGLE TAX IDEA IS DEFENDED BY HILLIS

Former Secretary of Chamber of Commerce Addressed Commonwealth Club Last Week.

PENALIZING THE DEVELOPER

Placing Tax on Land Values Makes Speculators Improve Property or Sell their Holdings.

The following is the address of V. S. Hillis before the Commonwealth Club at the Harvey Hotel on Tuesday evening of last week.

Taxation is a subject that has occupied the attention and study of all Nations for time immemorial. Thus far the subject seems to have reached a just settlement in only scattered instances, these few brilliant exceptions proving the rule general around the world of taxation inequalities and hardships.

Governments are continually wrestling with the problem of raising revenue to meet public expense. On the other hand, citizens turn criminals to evade the customs houses; illicit stills and Cuban tobacco outfit the Revenue officers; while respected townpeople, from New York to the Golden Gate, falsely swear to stock and bondholdings, also declaring that a Rosewood piano, costing \$600 and perhaps \$1,000, should be valued at \$100, or that a high-powered automobile purchased new only last year is now only so much junk.

In the natural order of things, justice, equality and fairness do not breed deception, corruption and falsehood; and the very fact of our present system making liars and criminals of our citizenry, seems to me to stamp the word "Failure" upon the brow of this monstrosity called Taxation.

The term Single Tax is, by the uninitiated, heaped in with misgivings and befogged by uncertainties, as something terrible, and doubtless associated with Anarchy, Socialism, or other isms. So it seems appropriate to first clear the decks in order that I may hope to build intelligently later on.

What the Socialists seek is state assumption of capital, or, more properly speaking, state management and direction of at least the larger operations of industry. Government ownership of railroads, telegraph, telephone, electric light and power, oil, coal and other minerals, and the substitution of regulation and direction for competition.

Anarchists, directly opposed to Socialists, say they see the evils of too much government, regarding government in itself an evil, and profess to believe that, in the absence of coercive power, the mutual interests of men would secure voluntarily whatever co-operation is needed.

Single Tax is in no way related to either of the foregoing, implying no revolution, and no change of government. It is simply a plan for raising revenue to meet public expense. Now-a-days we hear a great deal about getting "back to Nature", and my purpose is to take you "back to Nature" in the gathering of taxes, thereby doing away with our lying custom houses and internal revenue posts, and to remove from our people the temptation to swear to false values, or entirely withhold property from assessment.

The sole reason of taxation is to defray the cost of government. In tribal days there was no organization of government, and no taxes. Civilized man is more of a social animal, and his greater intelligence has told him that several forming a community can contribute to a common police fund and school fund, and install sewer systems and fire departments cheaper and to better purpose than if each man attended to the schooling of his children, and were left to fight destructive flames alone.

State government expense is usually collected from a small percentage added to local county taxation, while Federal expense is met largely from custom duties, internal revenue collections, and more recently the Income Tax, which it is thought may replace the revenue lost from decreased tariff duties; but taxes derived from all of these sources offer temptations to bribery, corruption and falsehood, thereby making them antagonistic to Nature's usual order of equality and justice.

H-M-B LAND COMPANY BRINGS PURCHASERS

Live Concern Has Already Disposed of House on the First Twenty Acres Developed Land.

WELL WITHOUT PUMP-DOWN

Roads, Constructed With Tractor, Plows, and Scrapers, Are Best Specimen in County.

The H-M-B Land Company has brought a number of prospective buyers from Ohio to look over the lands of the Deming Dairy Ranches Company, which adjoin the townsite. These probable settlers are in charge of Clarence Hon and Chas. Bowers. The holidays have, more or less, placed a damper on the land game, but with the New Year is promised renewed activity.

The new company has just finished the installation of their first five plants and a test of one of them held recently develops the fact that it is not possible to lower the pumping head, so good is the water bearing material which it penetrates.

The demonstration bungalow which is situated on the first tract developed has been sold, but the name of the buyer is for the present withheld. The plowing and leveling on five other tracts have been completed, and they are being fenced with concrete posts and rabbit-proof wire. The roads through the entire 2,000 acres have been completed and are now in use. The roads made with tractor, plows, and scrapers, are the best constructed thoroughfares in the county.

WATER IN MIESSE WELL ROSE CLOSE TO SURFACE

There is every indication that there is strong artesian pressure under the Mimbres Valley, as was shown last week when the water in a well on the lands of the Mimbres Valley Alfalfa Farms Company east of the city rose to within sixteen feet of the surface after the drill had pierced a rock stratum at 337 feet. Water was first encountered at forty-nine feet. The well will be continued to 450 feet, not with the intention of developing artesian water, however, as it is not considered of any great advantage in this section of shallow underflow.

At the present time the company has thirteen equipped pumping plants delivering water sufficient to water 4,000 acres. Twenty more wells have been completed and the plants are now being installed. Although these will be sufficient to reclaim the entire tract, to make certain a well will be placed on every 160 acres.

The telephone line to the development camp has been completed and is now in operation.

A. A. Tenke returned Tuesday from Santa Fe where he transacted legal business.

E. H. Bickford left the city last evening for Los Angeles, California, where he will transact business.

Charles Heath is in the city from Columbus to spend Christmas with his family.

T. J. Allison, of Central, and Mrs. Z. E. Richardson, of Bowling Green, Ky., were visitors to the chamber of commerce Tuesday.

None of the different States but that seem to get along satisfactorily by adding a few mills to county taxation, aided by revenue from corporation taxes and State proportion of railroad taxes, telephone, etc., the justice, or rather injustice, of which latter taxes will be treated of later on. Therefore, if State expense is largely met by a few mills, I propose, if necessary, but which will not be necessary, to add a few more mills to local taxation to meet the cost of Federal government. This is mentioned at this time simply to show, if we should be able to arrive at a satisfactory method of laying taxes, that it would be equally applicable to County, State and Nation, thereby doing away with thousands of custom and Internal Revenue officers, who are really tax collectors, and saving the cost, running into millions of dollars every few years, in the erection of new, and the repair of old custom houses. This is pair of old custom houses. This is (Continued on page two)

HOLT TELLS EL PASO HOW DEMING DOES IT

At Pass City Chamber of Commerce Dinner, Local Secretary Says Advertising Got Results.

LAUDS THE BOOSTING SPIRIT

Declared That Community Must Take Care of the Settlers' Welfare After They Come.

"What 99.99 Has Done for Deming, and What it Should do for El Paso." This was the subject of a talk Monday night before the El Paso Chamber of Commerce by W. E. Holt, secretary of the local chamber of commerce. The remarks follow:

It is with genuine pleasure that I gather with you around this festive board tonight, and touch elbows with red-blooded men who are helping to make a Greater Southwest, and who are showing the world how to build a city that shall stand the acid test of a progressive age. Shoulder to shoulder with the other communities of the great Southwestern Empire you are daily showing modern America that Frigoles produce a better quality of grey matter than Boston baked.

Deming, that young giant of the Mimbres Valley, presents her greetings to the gem city of the border, and, on the dead fellow boosters, I hope the boundary dispute will end by fixing the line east of where we stand tonight. You are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. We need you and you must have us, our interests are identical. As it were, we are "two souls with but a single thought, two hearts that beat as one."

Deming has her underground river of water so pure that air seems vulgar in comparison with it, and air so sweet that paradise appears almost commonplace. Here we are gathering harvests that would make the garden of Eden turn green with envy. We go to the ancient garden one better, however, by having no snakes to tempt our eyes, and our apples bring gladness rather than sin into the world. We also grow a little better brand of big leaves than our first parents wore for clothing.

Speaking about Deming water when Clairborn Adams and "Andy" Reeves attended our Chamber of Commerce dinner last week, neither of them ate a morsel of the splendid feast provided, but each drank from three to five glasses of the sparkling "99.99", the beverage that made Deming famous, and honest into that is all they did drink.

Deming has now passed the stage of speculation, and is actively engaged in making two crowns of alfalfa grow where once grew a crown of thorns (with apologies to Zach La Mar, and W. J. B.). Instead of getting a sucker for 160 acres, we are getting hard-headed, solid farmers for forty. We are making an acre of tomatoes, the sweetest finest favored in the world, produce \$200. We are making each acre of corn, big, plump, nice ears, yield a revenue of \$90 gross. We are growing finer plums than Italy. We are setting out ear loads of magnificent fruit trees. Our farmers' association is reckoning 12,000 pounds per day of pink beans and making the world come across with \$4.10 per bush because they are better beans than be found elsewhere. We are building lots of silos, and our cows are grading up instead of down, and butter fat is helping beef. Stately Percherons and Belgians are taking the place of burros, and the huge tractor has become a factor in our progressive farming.

The building of a country has builded likewise for a city fair to see, and each works in harmony with the other in producing practical results that benefit both. Our team work spells success. That's why the Deming community spirit is known and lauded from Boston harbor to the Golden Gate and from the Sun-kissed plains of British Columbia to the sin-cussed plains of old Chihuahua.

Why, my friends, if the Mimbres Valley keeps up its present development with its vast individual efforts and six great development companies it will see 150,000 acres of the richest land on the western continent reclaimed through the magic of the pump, and producing an average of \$40 per acre. And can you imagine

MOVING PICTURES FOR CHILDREN OF COUNTY

Deming Elks Will Keep Open House on New Year's Day at Crystal for Little Folks.

MANY GIVE FUND FOR POOR

Churches and Woman's Club Try to Bring Christmas Spirit to Cheerless Hearths.

The Deming lodge of Elks will keep open house from 2 to 5 o'clock at the Crystal Theater on New Year's Day. There will be special moving pictures to entertain the small visitors and without the usual admission fee. The invitation of the lodge is extended, not only to the children of Deming, but to all those living in the county.

This is but one of the features of the holiday season. There are Christmas cowboy sports today and will be again tomorrow. The various churches are giving Christmas trees tonight. An effort has been made by the Woman's Club and the various churches to minister to the wants of the poor of the city. The call of the Graphic for contributions to the charitable fund of the Woman's Club has been answered by many, but it is hoped that more will share their Christmas cheer with the destitute.

What that means? It means, my friends, six million dollars a year, and that is mighty conservative for Deming. And with all this, Deming is not envious or jealous. We love to see every community grow and prosper, as it means a greater, a richer and a grander commonwealth. It means good neighbors, good friends and good homes for us all.

Would that every city and community in this divinely favored region could catch a vision of what the future has in store for us. Another twelve months will doubtless witness the completion of the greatest reclamation project ever conceived by any nation on earth, and if solid sense and good judgment keep graft and greed to the rear, the greatest and beautiful valley of the Rio Grande will pay tribute to your splendid city. If you get big farmers on small farms instead of small success on big sections, success will surely be yours, and you will reap a solid reward. Of course, the Elephant Butte is a New Mexico institution, and that is one reason why I suggested the boundary line should include the Pass city of this grand domain.

You know, my friends, intelligent publicity will attract people on earth, and it is up to those who do the attracting to make good when the people come. It is a new thing to say that the land of our country can never be materially increased, and it is a fact that is familiar to every intelligent person that the population is getting continuously larger, and it is this problem that we have got to meet and solve. The Rio Grande Valley like the Mimbres Valley, is certain to be peopled by those who will bring the best civilization or those of a mediocre class. Stand by your Chamber of Commerce and bring the people with good American dollars who ride in pullman cars, and bring fine horses, fine cattle, and thorough bred farm stock instead of letting the class of people in who come overland with burros and a sickly cow hitched onto the back.

You can build a city on climate and intelligent publicity, note Los Angeles, the metropolis of the West. You can make a country famous on the water and printer's ink. Note the Hot Springs of Arkansas. You can bring people by advertising rich soil, note the North Central States, but when you have a combination of climate, soil and water you ought to get the best people and the most intelligent citizenship of our commonwealth, and it is up to us to intelligently present our claim to the people whose very souls are thirsting for the knowledge we possess.

R. S. Hamilton went to Silver City Wednesday to transact legal business.

Dr. Joseph Palotary and family, of Los Angeles, California, and Mrs. Tony Hoffman and daughter, of Douglas, Arizona, are spending the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Deckert.

THIRTY-SIX SIGN TO JOIN NATIONAL GUARD

Meeting Friday Night at Chamber of Commerce Demonstrated Great Interest in the Project.

BEGIN ACTIVE RECRUITING

Remaining Number of Members, Twenty-two, Expected to be Secured By Next Week.

A meeting of those interested in the formation of an infantry company of the National Guard of New Mexico in Deming was held last Friday evening at the chamber of commerce. There were present, besides those who had already placed their names to the enlistment agreement, several contemplating enlistment. A temporary organization was effected. The net result of the meeting was a committee to secure members and the enlisting of additional members, bringing up to the total to thirty-five.

It is proposed to begin with not less than sixty men though the regulations do not require more than fifty-eight. The additional members secured probably will be secured within the next week when another meeting will be called to perfect the organization. Enlistment blanks will then be provided and the company sworn in. Those who have thus far identified their willingness to become members are:

Clyde Earl Elk, John C. Watson, Harry A. Dean, Herman E. Bochtel, Ernest A. Prugel, Albert Ernst, Jr., John L. Prugel, Arthur W. Brook, Arthur J. Hustable, William Young, Jess Oliver, H. G. Bush, Richard Tidmore, Herbert Bishop, Arthur Flynn, J. M. Barracks, James Montgomery, W. B. King, Ed. Miliken, Godfrey Trowbridge, Luther McDougal, Arthur Perry, D. B. Hoffman, Will H. McDonough, P. A. Hughes, W. M. Jagersoll, Frederick Roth, D. L. Snyder, J. M. Hines, C. L. Robinson, James Herrin, Roy M. Bell, Clyde Osborne, Nelson Dixon, Clarence Pough, and H. B. Hall.

D. ROSS BROWNELL DIED SATURDAY AT VICTORIA

D. Ross Brownell, 26 years old, the owner of a cigar store and billiard room in Silver City, died Saturday afternoon at the Victoria Hotel of pneumonia. Mr. Brownell had been to the Faywood Hot Springs for his health and was on his way home when the fatal illness attacked him. The body was sent to Silver City Sunday. W. C. Rawson had charge of the body.

PERSONAL

H. G. Bush is back from a short visit to Gainesville, Texas.

G. R. Galusha, deputy U. S. marshal at Albuquerque, was in the city Tuesday enroute from Columbus to his home.

A. H. Hitchcock and C. L. Marston, of Denver, Colo., are in the city on business.

Constable James L. Gill, of Silver City, returned from a vacation trip to the coast Wednesday and stopped over here for a day on his way home.

Chas. Hughes, county clerk, has just returned from Holts Summit, Mo., where he has been visiting his parents, for the past six weeks.

Z. E. Richardson and wife, of Bowling Green, Ky., are Mimbres Valley visitors and investigators today.

T. J. Allison, of Central, was in Deming today to make arrangements to move his family here and become a resident.

M. A. Nordhaus is in El Paso, and on his return will bring three more Buick cars. Deming is getting to be one of the greatest automobile centers in the Southwest.

C. H. Baldwin, who purchased a fine farm east of the city sometime ago, has gone to his home in Illinois to arrange affairs, so that he can come here for permanent residence in the course of a few weeks. On his return he will be accompanied by his nephew and family.

CANNING FACTORY TO BE BUILT IN DEMING

Colorado Man Made Investigations in Mimbres Valley for Location of Site for New Industry.

WORK COMPLETED IN JUNE

Peas, Tomatoes, and All Vegetables to be Grown in Large Quantities for Western Markets.

John D. Best, of Longmont, Colo., arrived in the city Tuesday and made an extensive trip covering two hundred miles of the Mimbres Valley, with the view of locating a suitable tract for the raising of peas, beans, and other small vegetables. A site of forty acres a short distance from Deming, was partially decided upon by Mr. Best on which he said he intended to erect a modern canning factory.

Mr. Best was for years connected with the Empson canneries of Longmont, Colo., noted the world over for the production of early June peas.

PCT UP BUILDING

"I have often thought that this section of the country was an excellent place for a canning site and with a couple of men of capital of Denver, Colo., we have decided to very soon open up the canning industry near Deming. In the next few weeks, I will ask for bids on a two-story brick, fire-proof building, which is to be located on the edge of the city close to railway truckage facilities. We expect to be operating by the time the season opens for small vegetables. I have three suitable sites in view and as soon as the location is settled upon, work on the building will be commenced.

BELIEVES IN DEMING

"I have not been in Deming for about four years and I was certainly surprised to see the great progress shown in that time since I was here last. I am satisfied that the city is destined to become one of the largest cities in the Southwest, with its fine railroad facilities and thousands of acres of excellent farming land and the indomitable spirit of its inhabitants, are all strong indications of its great prosperity.

READY BY JUNE

"Immediately after the holidays I will return with my business associates from Colorado, when we will select the site for our proposed industry and we hope to be all ready to do business and place our products on the market by the latter part of June of the coming year. For the past two days I have been making trips over the valley and I must say I have seen some fine farming land and there is no question in my mind that there is an abundance of water for domestic and irrigation purposes."

After visiting friends in Albuquerque Mr. Best will return to Colorado.

Methodist Christmas Notice

All parents, of children taking part in the Methodist Christmas exercises, will kindly see to it that all are present at the church a little before seven, so that the program can begin promptly and avoid late hours for the little ones.

COMMITTEE

New Dry Cleaning Plant

Next Monday the firm of Malcom and Garcia will open its modern dry cleaning establishment at 124 Silver avenue. E. A. Malcom, formerly of Long Beach, California, and E. B. Garcia, formerly of Los Angeles, California, are the proprietors. The plant is entirely new and the best equipped in New Mexico. Among the machines recently installed are a dust wheel, gasoline washer, gasoline extractor, and pressing machine. Electric power is used through, and all gasoline is drawn by a pump from underground tanks outside of the building.

Mrs. P. R. Smith Dead

Word has been received of the death of Mrs. P. R. Smith in Los Angeles, California, early this week. The word comes just as the Graphic goes to press, and the circumstances of her illness and death are not known at this time. Mrs. Smith was a former resident of Deming and was much beloved by all who knew her.

Charles Baldwin, of Myndus, is registered at the Park Hotel.